MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : There is a slight fall.

MR. MURUKUMPUZHA V. KUNJUKRISHNAN : May I know whether any steps are taken by the Department to grow fish on a scientific basis?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : The fishing section has been transferred to the University and there investigation on the matter will be conducted.

MR. MURUKUMPUZHA V. KUJUKRISHNAN : May I know whether any portion of the backwaters is set apart for growing fish on a scientific basis?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR ; No, Sir.

Manufacture of cement in Travancore.

214 *MR. K. R. NARAYANAN : Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is a proposal to start the manufacture of cement in Travancore under the responsibility of Government?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS : The necessary investigations are being made.

Edathua Thalavady River.

215 *MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP (*Ambalapuzha* cum *Sheriala*) : Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Edathua Thalavady river is navigable during hot season;

(*b*) if not, whether the Government used to dredge it annually to make it navigable;

(*c*) whether any work was done this year; and

(*d*) if not, why was it not done?

MR. M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) It is being annually deepened by manual labour.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) This year it was proposed to dredge with the aid of the Dredger 'Sethu Parvathi' as deepening by manual labour was not sufficiently effective. But the dredger was under repairs for some time and now the river is flooded. Dredging will be done when the flood subsides.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP : Sir, may I know whether the Chief Engineer by his answer 'yes' to part (a) of my question means that the river is navigable all through the year?

MR. M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR : No, Sir. Not on all seasons of the year.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP : Then, may I know by answering 'yes' to my question whether he means that the Edathuva—Thalavadi river is navigable during hot season?

MR M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR : Sir, during the hot season, small valloms go over to the jetty. I mean that the big motor and steam boats cannot go then.

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